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Re : The Visit of the Delegation of the CC CPC to the Soviet Union
in Oct/Nov 1969 (See also Report dtd 25 Oct 1969)

Source: S

Date : 14 Jan 1970

Following is the gist of information given by the Source after
his return from the Soviet Union where he stayed from mid-Oct to mid-Nov. 1969.

1. Contrary to expectations and intentions of the Ukrainian-Canadian
"contingent" of the Delegation to turn their visit into another series of meetings
and serious conferences with competent, highest Soviet personalities in Moscow
and Kiev on the subject of nationalities policy and on Ukrainian affairs in
particular, the Soviet hosts put emphasis on ceremonials (they celebrated the
anniversary of Re-Union of West Ukraine with Soviet Ukraine in 1939) and arranged
the Delegation's sojourn accordingly. This , of course, was a disappointment
for the group but they were not able to do anything about it.
Beside Kiev and Lvov, the group visited also Moscow, Poltava, and Kharkov.
In Lvov they were present at the Re-Union celebrations and took part in a
banquet at which also were members of the Polish Delegation. Among local
notables was chairman of the Lvov oblvvykonkom TELISHEVSKY and his predecessor
Semen STEFANYK. The latter was one of the main speakers and welcoming Polish
delegates said something to the effect that Poles are in a better position " since
they have no language problem similar to the one we have". Also other speakers
mentioned this subject stressing necessity for developing "native language",
"culture" etc.

2. According to Source, though BREZHNEV and KOSYGIN are "mentally"
capable to introduce neo-Stalinism, a return to Stalinist terror was
improbable. This was ^{his} opinion based on various discussions with different
people in the Ukraine and other observations. As " a proof" that there was
no Stalinist terror being introduced Source mentioned the fact that Ivan
Dziuba had not been arrested. On this occasion he also added that "of course,
he (Dziuba) has very high protectors". He did not say , however, who they
were.

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3. In Source's opinion , the Russification drive in the Ukraine has slowed down. On the whole he is quite optimistic as to future developments in the Soviet Ukraine. Quickly there continues a process of permeation of highest ~~xxxxx~~ government and party echelons with "genuine " Ukrainian element supplied by younger generations. As an example Source mentioned TRONKO Petro who in his opinion was definitely "more Ukrainian ^{and better} than for instance Shelest". Next few years will be decisive as to the outcome of the present "balance" existing in ^{this} Ukrainization-versus-Russification-struggle. As an example of slowing down of Russification by authorities Source mentioned the fact that contrary to his previous experiences , this time on their visit to a kindergarten in Poltava , they were presented with only 5 performance in Russian , and 11 in Ukrainian.

4. Source was almost perplexed by ubiquitous anti-Chinese propaganda. In his words, there is a war-psychosis against China. "Everybody was talking about imminent war with Red China".

In Moscow the Delegation visited the Museum of ^{the} Soviet Army. They were also shown a separate exhibit room devoted to the Battle on Ussuri River. Photographs of wounded and killed Soviet soldiers were exhibited together with weapons, decorations, etc. A film of military funeral was demonstrated to the accompaniment of melodramatic music..

5. Discussing the strengthening of Ukrainian element in Soviet highest echelons in Kiev , Source warned against any harmful and irresponsible moves on the part of national emigration, stressing that any underlining of patriotic features in respective Soviet Ukrainian personalities by emigres would only provide the Russifiers with handy weapons against them.

6. The government of the Ukr SSR will sent to Edmonton, Alberta a life-size statue of Wasyl Stefanyk which should be ~~officially~~ formally unveiled in May 1971.

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